

Message Text

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SUBJECT: SOKA GAKKAI-JCP AGREEMENT DEAD?

REFS: (A) TOKYO 11790 (B) TOKYO 15073

SUMMARY. A FURTHER IKEDA "CLARIFICATION" OF THE SOKA GAKKAI-JCP TEN-YEAR AGREEMENT AND JCP CHAIRMAN MIYAMOTO'S REJOINDER THAT IKEDA HAD "CHANGED ITS SPIRIT," HAVE LED TO CONCLUSION THAT AGREEMENT IS PROBABLY A DEAD LETTER. END SUMMARY.

1. AT A NOVEMBER 11 PRESS CONFERENCE, JCP CHAIRMAN KENJI MIYAMOTO LEVELLED A BLAST AT SOKA GAKKAI PRESIDENT DAISAKU IKEDA FOR THE LATTER'S NOVEMBER 9 REPETITION OF HIS EARLIER STATEMENT THAT THE GAKKAI-JCP TEN-YEAR AGREEMENT WAS A STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND NOT AN INVITATION TO "JOINT STRUGGLE." MIYAMOTO, FOR THE FIRST TIME REFERRING TO IKEDA BYNAME, SAID THAT
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IKEDA HAD "CHANGED HIS INTERPRETATION" OF AGREEMENT AND

THAT THE GAKKAI POLITICAL ARM, KOMEITO (CGP), TAKING THE LEAD FROM IKEDA HAD STRENGTHENED ITS ANTI-COMMUNIST OFFENSIVE. MIYAMOTO SAID THAT HIS FAILURE TO PUT FORTH HIS OPINION AND CRITICIZE THE POSTURE OF THE GAKKAI AND CGP AT THIS POINT WOULD INVITE MISUNDERSTANDING. HE SAID THAT TO ENDURE FOR TEN YEARS THE CGP'S ANTI-COMMUNISM AND ANTI-JCP TACTICS, IN THE NAME OF ANTI-FASCISM, WOULD NOT SOLVE THE PROBLEM AND THAT IKEDA AND OTHER GAKKAI LEADERS HAD DISTORTED THE SPIRIT OF THE AGREEMENT. MIYAMOTO PROMISED THAT THE PROBLEM WOULD BE TAKEN UP BY THE JCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE WITHIN THE YEAR AND AN OFFICIAL PARTY POSITION ADOPTED.

2. THE FEUD BROKE OUT AGAIN ON ANOTHER FRONT WHEN THE DECEMBER ISSUE OF THE CGP MONTHLY, "KOMEI," ATTACKED MIYAMOTO'S VIEW ON THE RELATIONS BETWEEN MARXISM/LENINISM AND RELIGION. THE CGP, WHICH HAS BEEN PRESSING MIYAMOTO FOR HIS VIEW, POINTED OUT THAT ALTHOUGH THE JCP IN THE TEN-YEAR AGREEMENT -- AND MIYAMOTO ON VARIOUS OCCASIONS -- HAVE GIVEN ASSURANCES ON FREEDOM OF RELIGION, THIS RUNS CONTRADICTORY TO THE BASIC PHILOSOPHY OF MARXISM/LENINISM AND COULD NOT BE TRUSTED, ETC.

3. COMMENT. THIS EXCHANGE COMES IN THE CONTEXT OF SHARP CRITICISM OF THE JCP AT THE CGP CONVENTION (REF B) AND ONGOING SHARP EXCHANGES TAKING PLACE BETWEEN THE JCP AND CGP IN THEIR DAILY NEWSPAPERS. ALTHOUGH FURTHER EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE CGP/SOKA GAKKAI AND JCP CAN BE EXPECTED, FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES, THE TEN-YEAR AGREEMENT HAS BECOME A DEAD LETTER.
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